GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2905
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2003
SCHEMES FOR DEVELOPMENT AND UTILISATION OF BIO-FERTILIZERS
KAILASH MEGHWAL

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of programmes and schemes being implemented in various States particularly in Rajasthan under the National Scheme for development and utilization of bio-fertilizer sponsored by the Union Government; and

(b) the mediums through which the said programmes are being run in the country for the last five years and in the current years alongwith the total funds allocated in the said period, scheme / programme- wise and year-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b): The Govt. has implemented a National project on Development and Use of Bio-fertilizer as a central sector scheme during IX Plan. Under this project a National Biofertilizer DevelopmentCentre was established at Ghaziabad along with its six regional centers each at Hissar, Jabalpur, Bangalore, Nagpur, Bhubaneswar and Imphal, with following objectives:

? production and distribution of biofertilizer
? organizing training programmes for extension workers/agricultural officers and field demonstrations for increasing awareness about importance of biofertilizer.
? Augmenting biofertilizer production facilities by providing financial assistance
? Quality control of biofertilizers.

Under this scheme Govt. has provided non recurring grant-in-aid of Rs.20 lakhs through StateGovernments for setting up biofertilizer production units upto 150 MT capacity by agro-industries, cooperatives, public sector fertilizer undertakings, NGOs and private agencies for production of biofertilizers. So far funds have been released for setting up of 77 biofertilizer production units which includes one unit in Rajasthan. The details of funds released for setting up biofertilizer production units during last five years are as under:

Year	Expenditure Incurred (Rs. in lakhs)
1997-98	80.00
1998-99	50.00
1999-2000	159.00
2000-01	127.50
2001-02	56.00
TOTAL	472.50